

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# Translation 060 INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

510,429

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)						
International application No.	International filing date (do	Priority date (day/month/year)					
PCT/FR2003/001065	04 avril 2003 (04.		08 avril 2002 (08.04.2002)				
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G05B 23/02							
Applicant FRANCE TELECOM							
<ol> <li>This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</li> </ol>							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	5 sheets, inclu	ding this cover s	sheet.				
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).							
These annexes consist of a to-	These annexes consist of a total of sheets.						
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:							
I Basis of the report	I Basis of the report						
II Priority	II Priority						
III Non-establishment o	III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability						
14 L	IV Lack of unity of invention						
V Reasoned statement citations and explana	V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement						
VI Certain documents of	VI Certain documents cited						
VII Certain defects in the	VII Certain defects in the international application						
VIII Certain observations on the international application							
Date of submission of the demand	Dat	e of completion	of this report				
15 octobre 2003 (15.10.	2003)	12 No	ovember 2003 (12.11.2003)				
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Aut	Authorized officer					
Facsimile No.	Tele	Telephone No.					

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

# PCT/FR2003/001065

I. Basis of the report								
1.	Witl	h regard to	to the elements of the international application:*					
		the international application as originally filed						
	$\boxtimes$	the desc						
		pages	1-29	, as originally filed				
		pages		, filed with the demand				
		pages	pages, filed with the letter of					
	X	the clain	ims:					
		pages	1-32	, as originally filed				
l		pages	, as amended (together with any	statement under Article 19				
		pages						
		pages	, filed with the letter of					
	$\boxtimes$	the drav	wings:					
	لاجيكا	pages	1/3-3/3	, as originally filed				
		pages		, filed with the demand				
		pages	, filed with the letter of	·				
	П	the seaner	ence listing part of the description:					
	<b>-</b>	pages	•	on originally filed				
		pages						
ŀ		pages	, filed with the letter of					
2.	the i	nternation se element the lang the lang	nguage of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b) aguage of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).  Inguage of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examinates.	which is:				
3.	Witt preli	regard minary ex containe filed tog furnishe furnishe The sta internat	to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international apprexamination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:  ned in the international application in written form.  ogether with the international application in computer readable form.  ned subsequently to this Authority in written form.  ned subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.  tatement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyonational application as filed has been furnished.  extended that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the ways the computer of the computer readable form is identical to the ways the computer of the computer readable form is identical to the ways the computer of th	and the disclosure in the				
4.		t t	the claims, Nos the drawings, sheets/fig					
5.		beyond t	port has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they he the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**					
	in th and I	is report 70.17).	sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under t as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain	amendments (Rule 70.16				
**	Any i	replaceme	ent sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this	report.				

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FR 03/01065

. Reasoned statement under Article 3 citations and explanations supporting		, inventive step or industrial appl	icability;
. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-32	YES
	Claims		NO .
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-32	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-32	YES
	Claims		NO

- 2. Citations and explanations
  - 1. Reference is made to the following document:

D1: WO-A-97 15009.

- 2. Document D1 is considered to be the closest prior art.
- 2.1 Document D1 describes a method for diagnosing equipment to be inspected, wherein a communication module associated with said equipment to be inspected collects operating data therefor and retransmits said data to a remote server, which carries out a diagnosis based on the operating data received.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs from this prior art essentially in that the method includes the following steps:

 an intermediate server determines which server from a plurality of specialised assistance servers is suited to the equipment and connects

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International application No. PCT/FR 03/01065

said communication module to the specialised assistance server suited to said equipment; and

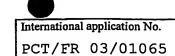
 said communication module transmits the equipment operating data to said specialised assistance server, which carries out the diagnostic.

These differences enable the range of the equipment that can be diagnosed to be increased.

There is nothing in document D1 or the other available documents that would suggest the addition of an intermediate server for selecting a server suited to the equipment, from a plurality of specialised assistance servers. It follows that the subject matter of claim 1 is novel and involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and 33(3)).

- 2.2 The system for diagnosing equipment as per claim 16 corresponds substantially to the method as per claim 1. As a result, the subject matter of said claim is novel and involves an inventive step for the same reasons.
- 2.3 Apparatus claims 21, 28 and 32 relate, respectively, to a server, a module and a black-box server for implementing the method of claim 1 or 15. These claims lack clarity owing to the mixture of method and apparatus features. If said claims were clarified so that they clearly defined distinctive features corresponding to all of the differences set out above, they could be considered to be patentable.
- 2.4 Dependent claims 2-15, 17-20, 22-27 and 29-31 are patentable under the same conditions as the





in	dependent	claims	on	which	they	are	dependent.	
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